

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend paragraph [0024] as follows:

[0001] The COPE outer layer 12 also provides a diffusion barrier which helps maintain the preservative concentrations (e.g., m-cresol, phenol, or the like) in the media formulations. This property of the tubing is important as it helps maintain preservative levels in formulations, ensuring that the Antimicrobial Effectiveness requirements set in the United States Pharmacopeia and by the United States Food and Drug Administration are met. In addition, the outer layer 12 can provide a barrier against diffusion of carbon dioxide.